

Election 2009 CITY OF ROCKVILLE VOTER'S GUIDE

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Voters will return to the polls Nov. 3 to elect a mayor and four council members. (Inset photo) Signs will be at every polling place entrance to help voters.

Election Day Nears in City of Rockville

When voters head to the polls on Tuesday, Nov. 3, they will decide between two candidates for mayor and 10 candidates for four council seats.

The 2009 Rockville election marks the 62nd for the city of more than 60,000 residents. Mayor Susan R. Hoffmann is seeking a second term as mayor. Councilmember Phyllis Marcuccio is also running for mayor.

Ten candidates are running for four council seats. They are:

- John Britton – incumbent
- Piotr Gajewski – incumbent
- Carl Henn

- Trapper Martin
- Tom Moore
- Bridget Newton
- Virginia Onley
- Waleed Ovase
- Mark Pierzchala
- Max van Balgooy

Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Election Day. Eligible residents who are not yet registered to vote in Montgomery County can register and vote on Election Day at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave. For details on same day registration, see story below.

Election results will be counted immediately after polls close. Unofficial results will be posted on the City's

Web site, www.rockvillemd.gov, and at City Hall. Rockville Channel 11 will also air the results.

The Mayor and Council each serve two-years terms. Newly elected officials will take the oath of office during inauguration at 1 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 22, at F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre.

The first meeting of the new Mayor and Council will be held at 7 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 23.

To learn more about the election or Election Day, go to www.rockvillemd.gov/election09/index.html or call 240-314-8286. ■

CANDIDATES FOR MAYOR



Susan Hoffmann

My love affair with Rockville continues. After nearly 13 years serving the City, on the Planning Commission, the City Council and now as your Mayor, I find that the work continues to be challenging, fascinating and rewarding.

As Mayor, my leadership has brought to Rockville:

- Well-managed City with NO DEFICIT
- Nearly \$1 million in budget cuts without cutting services
- 'round Rockville shuttle connecting communities to Metro and Town Center
- Protected neighborhoods—crime is down 26%
- Expansion of Homeowners Tax Credit
- Replacing City water system
- Opened world-class recreational facilities: Mattie J.T. Stepanek Park and Thomas Farm Community Center

You have my continued commitment to a "Clean and Green Rockville"

- Led in the creation of the City's "Green Building" regulations
 - City went from 15% to 60% wind power in two years
 - Created Green Building Award
 - Member of the Board of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments [COG]
 - Climate, Energy & Environment Committee member, COG
- As we look to the future:
- Will restore the Rockville Walking Town Meetings throughout the City
 - Recently created "Hire Rockville" – an e-bulletin board to help Rockville residents search for work
 - Forming a Rockville Business Roundtable to bring and keep good jobs in City
- I am committed to transparency, inclusion, accountability as we move forward together with vision and energy for all of Rockville.

I ask for your support and your vote on November 3. Thank you. ■

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E-mail: susan@susanhoffmann.com, Web site: www.susanhoffmann.com/



Phyllis Marcuccio

I am a two-term Council Member who wants to be your Mayor. I grew up in Rockville and started my city involvement as a grassroots activist and neighborhood Association President. I have lived here since 1942 and live in a house my father built. As your next Mayor, my priorities will be to:

— HOLD the city government accountable for spending, for recommendations of rises in rates and fees, for planning decisions, for Town Center, for environmental practices, for citizen and neighborhood safety, and for escalating capital project costs.

— OVERHAUL the city budget design, presentation, and approval process.

— PUT CITIZENS FIRST in the flow of information and communication. Residents need to be aware of issues and be party to the decision-making processes used when projects, programs, or changes will impact their homes and neighborhoods.

MY RECORD SHOWS I have:

- Championed a tax rate reduction each of the past three years and supported a tax rebate of \$100 the past four years.
- Always supported the merchants and enterprises, small and large, who keep our city a viable business community.
- Called for the reinstatement of Citizen's Forum at all Mayor & Council general meetings.
- Improved the appointment and service process for citizens who serve on the Rockville's many Boards and commissions.
- Voted against the 2010 city budget as it was balanced by new fees imposed on taxpayers.
- Produced Rockville Science Day for 20 years. ■

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City Offers Same Day Voter Registration

Rockville residents who missed the Oct. 5 deadline to register to vote can still do so on Election Day.

To register and vote on Tuesday, Nov. 3, residents should go to City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave. Those residents must then also vote at City Hall.

Residents who choose to register – and vote – on Election Day must bring a valid photo ID, such as a driver's license or state issued ID card, and proof of residency. If the photo ID does not have an address, a document issued by a corporation showing an address,

such as a utility bill or lease, may be used to show proof of residency. Current real estate tax bills will also be accepted.

To register, a resident must be a U.S. citizen and must be at least 18 years of age by Nov. 3.

For more information, call 240-314-8286. ■

Find Election Results on TV and Web

Rockville will make available results of the 2009 election on Tuesday, Nov. 3, through Rockville Channel 11, the City's Web site, www.rockvillemd.gov, and will post them at all entrances to City Hall.

It's important to note that results on Election Day will be unofficial. Results become official on Tuesday, Nov. 10.

Tune into Rockville 11 for late-breaking City Council election news. Watch a live results news segment on Nov. 3. Rockville Channel 11 will break into regular programming with the results. Then tune in for more extensive coverage, including winning candidate interviews and citizen reaction later that week.



Results will also be posted on the City's web site as they become available. ■

ELECTION 2009 – ROCKVILLE'S CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES

Can't Make the Polls Nov. 3? Vote Absentee

If you are unable to vote on Election Day, you can vote by absentee ballot. Residents can pick up an absentee ballot in the City Clerk's Office through Election Day. The last day the City Clerk's Office will mail absentee ballots is Tuesday, Oct. 27. The City Clerk's Office is located at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave.

Voters who want to apply online for an application to vote using absentee ballot, can go to www.rockvillemd.gov/election09/absenteequest.htm. Once the form is received, an application will be mailed.

The signed application must be returned to the City Clerk's Office by Oct. 27. Registered voters can also pick up the ballot in person, or have their registered agent pick it up, at the City Clerk's Office at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave.

Absentee ballots will be accepted as late as 8 p.m. on Election Day, but no ballot that arrives after Election Day will be counted.

Residents who live within the corporate limits of the city and are registered to vote may vote in the City of Rockville elections.

For more information about absentee ballots, go to www.rockvillemd.gov/election09/index.html or call 240-314-8286. ■



John Britton

I have been honored to serve as a councilmember for the past two years and am excited to be a candidate again for the Rockville City Council. My family and I have lived in Rockville for eleven years and we continue to enjoy our exceptional recreational, cultural and community activities. I became involved in civic and community affairs soon after our move to Rockville - Cultural Arts Commission, Arts in Public Places Committee, Planning Commission, Zoning Ordinance Revision Committee. Throughout my tenure on the Council, I have listened carefully to all viewpoints on an issue, thoroughly researched and analyzed the facts, and collected information from various sources before reaching a decision. I believe this is my duty as a councilmember particularly when addressing issues that significantly impact our quality of life - public health and safety, land use, environment, recreation and allocation of resources. To further my understanding of critical issues such as pedestrian safety and environmental integrity, I am involved with and I represent Rockville's interests on the following committees: Montgomery County Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Air Quality Committee, Council of Governments Climate, Energy and Environment Policy Committee. Through my work on these committees and City Council, I have proven to be thoughtful, dedicated to the interests of Rockville, and effective and, if reelected, I commit to maintaining this approach. Thank you and I look forward to serving you for another two years. Visit www.vote4john.org or contact votebritton@aol.com. ■

301-340-2269

E-mail: votebritton@aol.com, **Web site:** www.vote4john.org



Piotr "Peter" Gajewski

Since my election in 2007, I have worked to ensure that Rockville residents get the best possible value from our City government. Beautiful, safe neighborhoods and great City services are Rockville's trademarks. But effective government should not mean runaway taxes and endless spending. That is why, shortly after taking office, I helped to lead the successful effort to decrease Rockville's property tax rate and to expand the homeowner tax credit. In addition, as a responsible answer to the recession, I recently cast the swing vote to actually decrease City spending, as compared to last year, by nearly \$1 million.

I also provided leadership in:

- Preserving the "home-town" character of Rockville's many neighborhoods through the recently adopted zoning ordinance.
- Creating an in-house office of City Attorney, which will save Rockville hundreds of thousands of dollars annually.
- Reaching a deal with Verizon to wire Rockville for advanced FioS that will compete with the currently available COMCAST service.
- Establishing a City Vision that puts Rockville forward as a "cultural destination."
- Championing greater transparency of our Rockville government.

I am proud that, since I took office, Rockville has won many national awards, and was named by both Money and Forbes magazines as one of the best towns in America. Rockville is also one of just a handful of small Cities with AAA (Prime) bond credit rating. I ask for your vote so that together we can continue our work to make Rockville the best that it can be! ■

240-753-8736

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Carl Henn

Rockville needs a Council that will work together to face today's unprecedented challenges. With rising need for services and declining revenues, the need for creative solutions has never been greater. We need fiscal discipline and an eye for ways to address our problems through citizen empowerment, partnership with other government bodies, neighborhood organizations and businesses.

If elected, I pledge to work in a civil manner with my fellow council members, staff and citizens to keep Rockville strong and secure, welcoming and fun, and a great place to grow up, to raise your kids, work and retire.

I've lived in Rockville for 22 years. It's a great place to live and I have worked to make it better as a member of the Environment Commission, the Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee, and as president of the Hungerford Civic Association. I led an effort that has resulted in three new community gardens in Rockville. I work for NIH in contract policy and in the past as a Contracting Officer I negotiated and administered contracts for research into AIDS, TB, malaria and other infectious diseases. Prior to that I was a contract specialist for the U.S. Navy. I'm married with two children.

I have long had an interest in local government, in energy issues, the environment and in finding solutions that work for our community and ways to deliver value for your tax dollar. For more information please see my website at www.carlhenn.org. Please vote for Carl Henn for City Council on November 3. ■

301-251-0310

E-mail: carlhenn@comcast.net, **Web site:** www.carlhenn.org



Trapper Martin

I am asking for the opportunity to serve the great residents of Rockville on their City Council. I have lived in this amazing city for over five years and I am very excited for the opportunity to serve. With so much turmoil in the current economy it is all that more important for us to have a fiscally clear path towards the future in Rockville.

The continued development and completion of Rockville Town Square in addition to the implementation of a functional plan for our older neighborhoods is a must. We need a council that can build consensus and get things done without in-fighting and turmoil. We need leaders that listen to their neighbors and quickly implement plans to better our community while maintaining the level of services we have been accustomed to.

As a resident of East Rockville and a district manager for Noodles & Company, including the two locations we have in Rockville, I have a solid understanding of the challenges that the city currently faces and my finger on the pulse of residents and business owners. I am not going to say that I know every issue or concern in Rockville and ask you to reach out to me via my website so we can discuss our future together. I will do my best to represent every citizen in a fair and balanced way that always has the best interest of the taxpayer in mind.

Please join me in this effort and contact me with any questions.....Trapper ■

E-mail: trapper@trapper-martin.com

Web site: www.trapper-martin.com



Tom Moore

Rockville is a great community, and I am proud to be raising my three kids here. But make no mistake, the next Council faces significant challenges. Rockville is well-prepared to survive this economic storm, but the millions in state funding that vanished this year are a clear warning about the road ahead. It's not going to be fun – or easy. Leadership is required.

I will provide that leadership. I have led improvements in Rockville's planning, our traffic, our libraries, and our neighborhoods. I've led efforts to drain politics out of our most touchy compensation issues. I've served as a computer tutor to our seniors. My years with the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department give me a public-safety background unmatched among council candidates and incumbents.

On the City Council, my number-one task will be what ought to be the number-one task of everyone associated with Rockville's government: The continued delivery of exceptional services to Rockville's residents.

In addition, I will:

- Work to assure that our affordable housing respects our neighborhoods;
- Monitor our new green building code to confirm that its benefits bring no unintended burdens;
- Pressure Rockville's commercial landlords to fill their empty spaces;
- Explore ways to increase public participation and voter turnout; and
- Not least, work well with my colleagues, no matter who they are. I ask for your support and your vote; don't be surprised if Katie, Joey, or Ellie track you down and ask you the same sometime this fall! Thank you. ■

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Bridget Newton

We are at a crossroads in Rockville. If we are to realize Rockville's potential, we need to be more fiscally responsible, more inclusive of citizens and local businesses in the planning process, and engage in civil and tempered debate on the issues facing our city.

In the 18 years that I have been involved as a citizen volunteer, I have been a strong voice for neighborhoods and quality of life. I have worked with all stakeholders to bring the best solutions forward. I see myself as a "Rockville Resident" – not just a "West End Resident." I have held leadership positions on the Beall PTA, the Compensation Commission, the Town Center Action Team and the West End Citizens Association. In each organization, I have advocated for an open democratic process where everyone is included and has a voice.

I believe that we need to re-evaluate our budget process and include citizens in the prioritizing of project and infrastructure funding. We cannot continue to draw down our reserve funds, nor can we continue to balance our budgets by raising fees and taxes. We must support our local businesses and protect our neighborhoods. We must work together to ensure that development comes to Rockville in a mutually beneficial way, so that the needs of today are balanced against the history and traditions of yesterday.

If elected, I will be part of a team that champions the interests of Rockville's citizens, supports our businesses and protects our resources and amenities. ■

301-762-9388

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Virginia Onley

I want to represent you on The Rockville City Council. I will work for you to address all the issues facing our community. I hope to be that "voice of common sense and reason" to help us get the things we need to make life better for our families.

Fiscal responsibility is my first priority. As a member of the Compensation Commission, I was the only member who voted NO to increase the Mayor and Council stipend this year. In the past, I always voted for an increase. This year, I felt our current economy was too weak and unpredictable to open the taxpayers' wallets. Small changes like this add up to big differences. When I'm on the council, I'll handle the City budget like the family budget.

Senior issues are also important to me. I served on Rockville's Senior Citizen's Commission for 6 years and led the commission as chair through the conception and launch of the senior's computer lab. I'll maintain my commitment to providing the best facilities and programs for our seniors.

Protecting and improving the quality of neighborhoods is another core value for me. As councilmember, I'll bridge the gap many of you tell me exists between your neighborhood and City Hall. I want to continue hearing what's on your minds. When I can't help, I'll be the first to look you in the eye and tell you my hands are tied and why they're tied. I won't keep you guessing.

Please visit www.VoteVirginiaOnley.org. ■

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Waleed Ovase

When I moved to Rockville 6 years ago from Oklahoma, I was met with a city that was warm and welcoming. Now, an opportunity is available to fix our city council and I can't pass it up. I am driven by the simple idea that government should work for the people of Rockville, not just for those in power. I believe in a common sense approach to government. I believe you don't need tens of thousands of dollars or campaign managers from Washington, but a team full of dedicated volunteers and a campaign run on big ideas. I believe that citizens should be respected, not ignored or attacked. They should have a seat at the table.

Most importantly I believe that government should be civil, accountable and transparent. Year after year, you've been met with politicians who promise to fix your problems, only to change once they enter City Hall. I will make sure that City Hall works for you, and not the other way around. All candidates for City Council are going to speak about the need for a green Rockville, the need to spend just as much time talking about Lincoln Park as we do about Rockville Town Center. After that first Tuesday in November, all these priorities seem to take the back seat—they think only of their position and not your needs. This race is about the future of Rockville. Change Rockville for the better by voting Waleed Ovase for City Council! Read more at <http://www.waleed4council.org>. ■

240-328-2409
E-mail: waleedovase@gmail.com, **Web site:** www.waleed4council.org



Mark Pierzchala

I'm in the race because the first budget of the current Mayor and Council increased spending by 9.5% at a time when they knew difficult economic times were coming. Rockville is a great place to live and to keep it that way we need to get the budget under control. We need to totally revamp the budget-making process so that the elected can compare the worth of each program. Revenues have just dropped \$2.4 million in our current budget and will decrease more. Mayor and Council could have been preparing for revenue reductions. They chose instead to take off many Monday nights. I will bring budget expertise to the council.

Civility is lacking. Mayor and Council need to work together and bury personal differences. I will model good behavior and keep discussion focused on policy.

Neighborhoods are under increasing pressure from Montgomery College, the county, the state, and development near Metro. We need to defend the neighborhoods and this should be done with revisions to the zoning ordinance. As President of the College Gardens Civic Association for 4 years, I represented my community effectively and I know how City policy impacts neighborhoods.

Public service has long been part of my life. I was in the Peace Corps and am active in my church and community. I will be "a leader for our times".

I take clear positions as you can see by visiting my website at www.VotePierzchala.org. Courage, openness, and diplomacy are required to deal with difficult issues. ■

(c) 301-461-4563,
(h) 301-838-7687

E-mail: VotePierzchala@cs.com, **Web site:** www.VotePierzchala.org



Max van Balgooy

When my wife and I moved to this area in 2001, we chose Rockville for our new home. We loved its diversity; parks and recreation; shopping and Metro; safety and cleanliness; and culture, arts, and heritage. In a short time, we became much more involved in Rockville and still think it's a great community, but we've also learned it can be better -- and it's facing a difficult future.

Although we've been initially spared from the downturn in the national economy, that will change quickly in the next few years. The weakening financial conditions at the state and county levels will impact Rockville, and we'll need a Council that has the experience and ability to take the lead, avoid raising taxes, and make the tough decisions ahead while holding fast to certain values: attractive neighborhoods, active and distinctive businesses, safe streets, a green and sustainable city, and an efficient and responsive government. But we need a Mayor and Council who will work better together and with the community to navigate the rocky road ahead.

As a Councilmember, I will bring decades of experience. I've just completed six years on the Historic District Commission and previously served on a city planning commission and downtown business association working with a variety of people and organizations. In every situation I've strived to build shared goals, consider everyone's perspective, and arrive at consensus in a mutually respectful manner.

To learn more, visit my Web site or give me a call. Elect Max A. van Balgooy. ■

301-251-6371

E-mail: max.vanbalgooy@gmail.com, **Web site:** MaxForRockville.WordPress.com

Transportation to Polls Offered for Seniors

The City of Rockville will provide transportation to the polls for senior citizens on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 3.

Transportation will be provided from the following locations (Note: Times are approximate):

Leaving from: Bethany House, 199 Rollins Ave.
8:45 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Leaving from: Congressional Towers, 261 Congressional Lane
8:45 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Leaving from: Ring House, 1801 E. Jefferson Street
9:30 a.m. and 2:15 p.m.

Leaving from: Town Center Apartments, 90 Monroe St.
11 a.m. and 3:45 p.m.

Leaving from: Americana Centre, 118 Monroe Street
11 a.m. and 3:45 p.m.

Leaving from: Heritage House, 95 Dawson Avenue
Noon and 4:45 p.m.

Seniors living in private homes can request transportation assistance to the polls. Call the Senior Services Office at 240-314-8810 to reserve a ride. Calls for service must be made by Tuesday, Oct. 27. ■

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE ON ELECTION DAY: TUESDAY, NOV. 3, 2009

Residents Invited to Inauguration of Rockville Mayor and Council

Voters will elect a mayor and four council members on Tuesday, Nov. 3. An inauguration for the newly elected Mayor and Council is scheduled for 1 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 22, at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre.

Eileen McGuckian, Rockville historian, will emcee the ceremony, which will include the formal induction of the Mayor and Council, the presentation of colors by the Rockville City Police Department and a performance by the Richard Montgomery High School Madrigals.

Loretta Knight, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, will administer the formal oath of office.

Rockville Channel 11 will broadcast live the inauguration ceremony, air it throughout the end of November and December, and will make it available On Demand.

The inauguration is free and open to the public. A reception will follow. No tickets are necessary. The F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre is located at 603 Edmonston Drive. ■

Curbside Voting Option Available Assistance Offered for Residents with Disabilities

Residents who wish to vote but are physically unable to access the voting room in the polling place can use the curbside voting option.

In order to be eligible for use of curbside voting, residents must arrive at the polls in a car

and have a companion notify an election judge in the voting room of the need for assistance.

A judge will verify the voter's eligibility then bring a ballot and other necessary voting materials to the car. After voting, the voter must seal the marked ballot in a

privacy envelope that the judge will deposit in a secure location in the voting room. Curbside voting ballots will be counted just as absentee ballots are counted.

For more information about curbside voting, call 240-314-8286. ■

Rockville 11 Helps You Prepare for the Election

Do you need to get up to speed on the candidates, issues and voter information? With the 62nd Rockville Mayor and Council election less than two weeks away, there's still time to learn everything you need to know to cast your ballot.

The Rockville Web site, www.rockvillemd.gov, has plenty of information to help you, including video links to help you make an

informed decision on Nov. 3.

Watch Rockville 11 on cable and online for the latest candidate statements, debates and news segments. Find the videos at www.rockvillemd.gov/election09/videos.htm.

Here's what you can learn:

- Watch the Rockville 11 voter information promo (in English and Espanol), which explains the council-manager form of

government, how to vote by absentee ballot, curbside voting and more.

- Watch the candidates debate at three candidate forums.
- Hear candidate platforms during their four-minute televised statement on The Candidates.
- Rockville 11, goes inside the City Clerks Office to find out what residents need to know to vote in this year's election. ■



2009 Voting Districts

2009 POLLING PLACES

The polling places established for the 2009 election are as follows:

District 1 – Elwood Smith Recreation Center, 601 Harrington Road (at Mercer Road)

District 2 – Rockville Swim and Fitness Center, 355 Martins Lane (NEW)

District 3 – Lincoln Park Community Center, 357 Frederick Avenue

District 4 – Social Hall at F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, 603 Edmonston Drive

District 5 – Twinbrook Community Center, 12920 Twinbrook Parkway

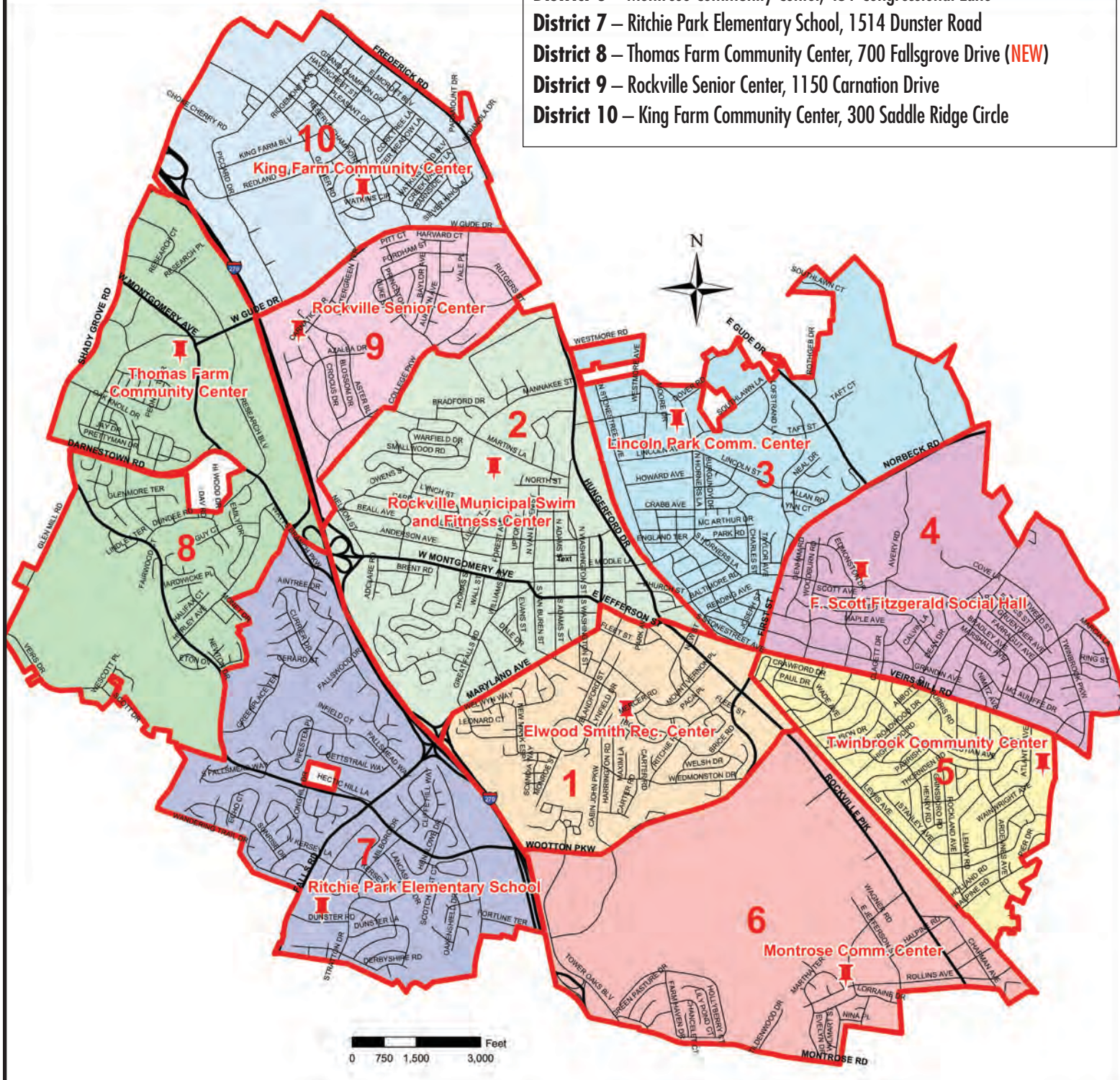
District 6 – Montrose Community Center, 451 Congressional Lane

District 7 – Ritchie Park Elementary School, 1514 Dunster Road

District 8 – Thomas Farm Community Center, 700 Falls Grove Drive (NEW)

District 9 – Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive

District 10 – King Farm Community Center, 300 Saddle Ridge Circle



Two New Voting Districts for 2009 Election

Rockville is divided into 10 voting districts. Polling locations and the addresses for each are listed below. Polls are open 7 a.m.-8 p.m. on Election Day. Two of the polling locations have changed. Voters in District 2 will now vote at Rockville Swim and Fitness Center (previously Beall Elementary School) and voters in District 8 will now vote at Thomas Farm Community Center (previously Lakewood Elementary School). ■

Polling Places

District 1:
Elwood Smith Community Center, 601 Harrington Road (at Mercer Road)

District 2:
Rockville Swim and Fitness Center (New for 2009) 355 Martins Lane

District 3:
Lincoln Park Community Center, 357 Frederick Ave.

District 4:
Social Hall at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, 603 Edmonston Drive

District 5:
Twinbrook Community Recreation Center, 12920 Twinbrook Parkway

District 6:
Montrose Community Center, 451 Congressional Lane

District 7:
Ritchie Park Elementary School, 1514 Dunster Road

District 8:
Thomas Farm Community Center (New for 2009) 700 Falls Grove Drive

District 9:
Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive

District 10:
King Farm Community Center, 300 Saddle Ridge Circle